

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/893,050

Applicant(s)

KUTZ ET AL.

Examiner

Donna K. Mason

Art Unit

2111

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Paper filed on April 11, 2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-3 and 7-22 (renumbered 1-19).
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 26 June 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

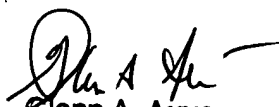
* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


Glenn A. Auve
Primary Patent Examiner
Technology Center 2100

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 1-3 and 7-22 are allowed.
2. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: The primary reason for allowance is the inclusion of the limitation, "a user selectable switching circuit that selectively connects at least one of said dedicated analog input, said dedicated analog output, said dedicated digital input and said dedicated digital output to the wirebond pad under control of the processor after packaging of said circuit," as recited in independent claim 1. The prior art is not directed to a microcontroller, as claimed, where the switching circuit is user selectable, and selectively connects at least one of a dedicated analog input, dedicated analog output, dedicated digital input, and dedicated digital output to a wirebond pad under control of a processor after packaging of a circuit.

For example, U.S. Patent No. 6,356,958 to Lin discloses a microcontroller, where the switching circuit selectively connects at least one of a dedicated analog input, dedicated analog output, dedicated digital input, and dedicated digital output to a wirebond pad under control of a processor, but fails to expressly disclose where the switching circuit selectively connects after packaging of the circuit. By way of further example, although U.S. Patent No. 6,509,758 to Piasecki and 5,734,334 to Hsieh each disclose where a switching circuit selectively connects after packaging of a circuit, neither Piasecki nor Hsieh expressly disclose dedicated analog and digital inputs and outputs. Furthermore, the combination of either Piasecki or Hsieh with Lin would be

Art Unit: 2111

improper (i.e., Lin teaches away from selectively connecting after packaging of the circuit).

Therefore, claims 1-3 and 7-22 are allowed.

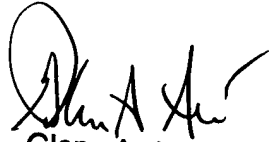
Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Donna K. Mason whose telephone number is (571) 272-3629. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 8:30am - 5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mark H. Rinehart can be reached on (571) 272-3632. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

DKM


Glenn A. Auve
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